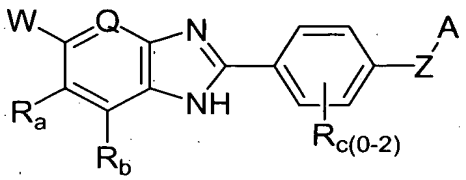
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula (I):



wherein

W is -COOH, $-(CO)NH_2$, or $-(SO_2)NH_2$;

Q is N or CH;

R_a and R_b are independently selected from -H and halogen;

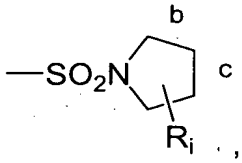
R_c is absent or is independently selected from the group consisting of –OH, $-CF_3$, $-C_{1-4}$alkyl, $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-NO_2$ and halo;

Z is selected from the group consisting of

a) $>C=O$, $>C=CHR_f$, $>CR_dR_d$, $>CF_2$, $>CR_dOR_e$, $>C(OR_d)OR_e$,

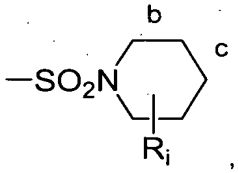
b) $>C(R_d)NR_dR_g$,

c) $-SO_2NR_dC(R_h)_2-$,



,

where A is fused at the b or c faces, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,



,

where A is fused at the b or c faces, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,

d) $>NC_{1-4}$alkyl, where the alkyl is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of $–NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, $-COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl;

R_d is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and $-C_{1-4}$alkyl;

R_e is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and optionally mono- or di-substituted -C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

alternatively, R_d and R_e may be taken together with their atoms of attachment to form a 5 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring, with the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members separated from an atom of attachment by at least one carbon member and selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl and having a maximum of two heteroatom ring members;

R_f is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

R_g is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and optionally mono- or di-substituted -C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

alternatively, R_d and R_g may be taken together with their nitrogen of common attachment to form a 5 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring, with the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl and having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members separated from the atom of common attachment by at least one carbon member and selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl;

R_h is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl; or, alternatively, R_h is –CH_2CH_2– or

$-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, optionally substituted with R_i, which is bonded to a carbon of A adjacent to the carbon of Z attachment, forming a five- or six-membered carbocyclic ring;

R_i is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -OH, $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of $-NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, $-COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of:

a) phenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

R_p is selected from the group consisting of –OH, $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-OC_{1-6}$alkyl, $-C_{3-6}$cycloalkyl, $-OC_{3-6}$cycloalkyl, -CN, $-NO_2$, $-N(R_y)R_z$ (wherein R_y and R_z are independently selected from -H or $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, or may be taken together with the nitrogen of attachment to form an otherwise aliphatic hydrocarbon ring, said ring having 5 to 7 members, optionally having one carbon replaced with >O, =N-, >NH or $>N(C_{1-4}alkyl)$ and optionally having one or two unsaturated bonds in the ring), $-(C=O)N(R_y)R_z$, $-(N-R_t)COR_t$ (wherein R_t is independently -H or $-C_{1-6}$alkyl), $-(N-R_t)SO_2C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-(C=O)C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-(S=(O)_n)-C_{1-6}$alkyl (wherein n is selected from 0, 1 or 2), $-SO_2N(R_y)R_z$, $-SCF_3$, halo, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, -COOH, $-C_{1-6}$alkylCOOH, $-COOC_{1-6}$alkyl and $-C_{1-6}$alkyl$COOC_{1-6}$alkyl;

b) phenyl, attached at two adjacent ring members to a C_{3-5}alkyl moiety to form a fused 5 to 7 membered ring, said fused ring optionally having a second unsaturated bond, said fused ring optionally having one or two members replaced with =N-, >O, >NH or $>N(C_{1-4}alkyl)$ except that no such replacement is permitted where the fused ring is 5 membered and has a second unsaturated bond, and said fused ring optionally having one carbon member replaced with >C=O, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

c) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment,

having one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and optionally mono- or di-substituted with R_p;

d) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a three membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused five membered aromatic ring, which moiety has one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) and which moiety has up to one additional carbon atom optionally replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

e) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a four membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused six membered aromatic ring, which moiety has zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

f) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having five ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl), having up to one additional carbon atom optionally replaced by N, and optionally mono- or di-substituted with R_p;

g) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having five ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl), and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a four membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused six membered aromatic ring, which moiety has zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

h) a 4-7 membered aliphatic or heterocyclic ring said heterocyclic ring having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having 0 or 1 heteroatom members selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NR_p, having 0, 1 or 2 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl and having 0, 1 or 2 substituents R_p,

i) a benzo fused 4-7 membered aliphatic or heterocyclic ring said heterocyclic ring having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NR_p, having 0 or 1 additional unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, having 0, 1, 2, or 3 halo substituents on the benzene ring only and having 0, 1 or 2 substituents R_p,

and enantiomers, diastereomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters or amides thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein W is -(CO)NH_2.

3. The compound of claim 1 wherein Q is CH.

4. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a and R_b are -H, -Cl or -F.

5. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a is -H and R_b is -Cl or -F.

6. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a and R_b are -H.

7. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c is absent or is selected from the group consisting of -OH, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, $-CF_3$ and $-OCH_3$.

8. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c is selected from the group consisting of -F, -Cl, $-CH_3$ and $-OCH_3$.

9. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c is absent.

10. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d is selected from the group consisting of -H, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH(CH_3)_2$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ and $-C(CH_3)_3$.

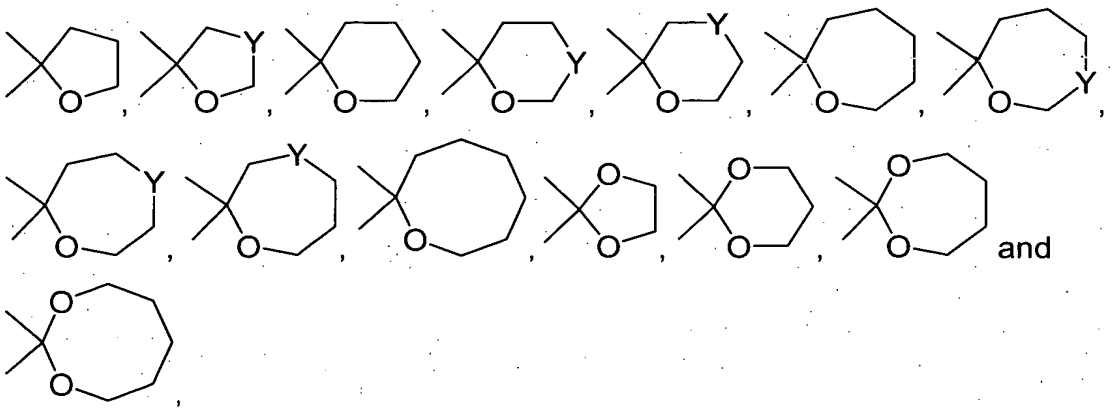
11. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d is selected from the group consisting of -H, $-CH_3$ and $-CH_2CH_3$.

12. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_e is selected from the group consisting of -H, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH(CH_3)_2$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ and $-C(CH_3)_3$, where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

13. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_e is selected from the group consisting of -H, $-CH_3$ and $-CH_2CH_3$, where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

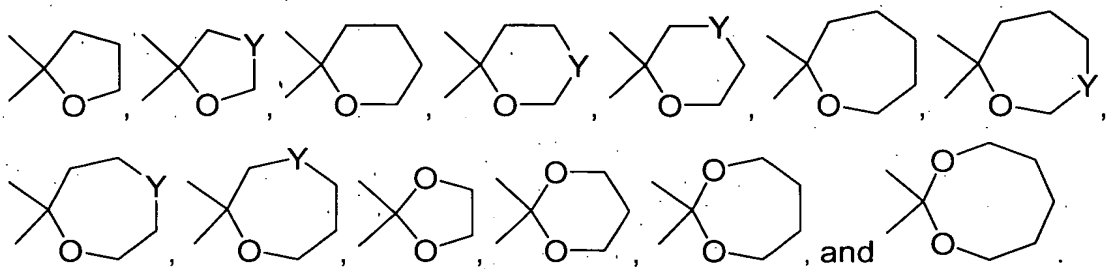
14. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_e is -H or $-CH_3$.

15. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_e taken together with their atoms of attachment form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of



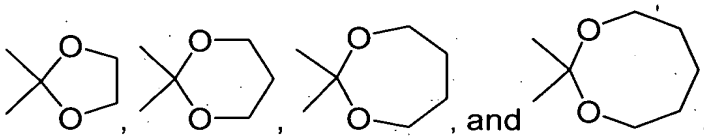
said heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds and having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, where Y is selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or $>NC_{1-4}$alkyl.

16. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_e taken together with their atoms of attachment form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of

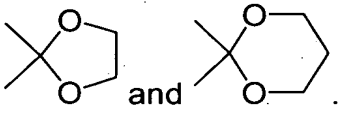


where Y is selected from O, >NH or $>NC_{1-4}$alkyl.

17. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_e taken together with their atoms of attachment form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of



18. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_e taken together with their atoms of attachment form a heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of



19. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_f is selected from the group consisting of -H, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHCH_3$, $-CONHCH_2CH_3$, $-CON(CH_3)_2$, $-CON(CH_2CH_3)_2$, -COOH, $-COOCH_3$, $-COOCH_2CH_3$, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH(CH_3)_2$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ and $-C(CH_3)_3$, where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

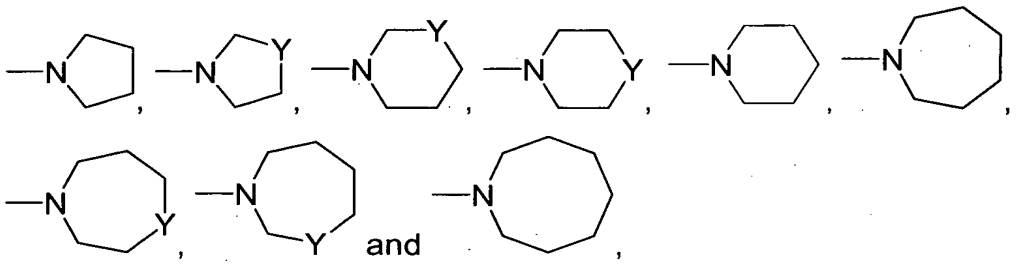
20. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_f is selected from the group consisting of -H, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHCH_3$, $-CON(CH_3)_2$, -COOH, $-COOCH_3$, $-CH_3$ and $-CH_2CH_3$, where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

21. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_f is selected from the group consisting of –H and -CH_3.

22. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_g is selected from the group consisting of -H, -CH_3, -CH_2CH_3, -$CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -$CH(CH_3)_2$, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -$CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ and -$C(CH_3)_3$, where the alkyl moieties are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

23. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_g is selected from the group consisting of -H, -CH_3 and -CH_2CH_3 where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

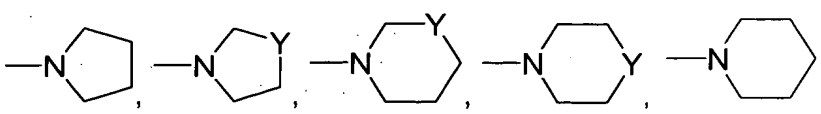
24. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_g taken together with their nitrogen of attachment to form a heterocyclic ring are selected from the group consisting of



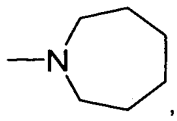
and

the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds and having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, where Y is selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl.

25. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_g taken together with their atoms of attachment to form a heterocyclic ring are selected from the group consisting of

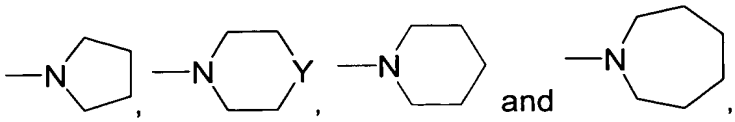


and



, where Y is selected from O, S, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl.

26. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_d and R_g taken together with their atoms of attachment to form a heterocyclic ring are selected from the group consisting of



, where Y is selected from O, S, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl.

27. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_h is selected from the group consisting of -H, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHCH_3$, -$CONHCH_2CH_3$, -$CON(CH_3)_2$, -$CON(CH_2CH_3)_2$, -COOH, -$COOCH_3$, -$COOCH_2CH_3$, -CH_3, -CH_2CH_3, -$CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -$CH(CH_3)_2$, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -$CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ and -$C(CH_3)_3$, where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

28. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_h is selected from the group consisting of -H, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHCH_3$, -$CON(CH_3)_2$, -COOH, -$COOCH_3$, -CH_3 and -CH_2CH_3, where the alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

29. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_h is selected from the group consisting of -H, -CH_3 and -CH_2CH_3.

30. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_h is –CH_2CH_2– or -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$–, which is bonded to a carbon of A adjacent to the carbon of Z attachment, forming a five- or six-membered carbocyclic ring.

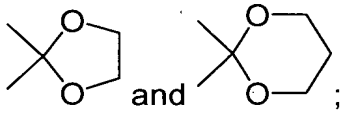
31. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_h is –CH_2CH_2– or -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$–, which taken together with A forms indanyl or 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalenyl.

32. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_i is selected from the group consisting of -H, -OH, -OCH_3, -OCH_2CH_3, -$OCH_2CH_2CH_3$, -CH_3, -CH_2CH_3, -$CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -$CH(CH_3)_2$, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -$CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ and -$C(CH_3)_3$, where the directly attached alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

33. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_i is selected from the group consisting of -H, -OH, $-OCH_3$, $-CH_3$ and $-CH_2CH_3$, where the directly attached alkyl members are optionally mono- or di-substituted.

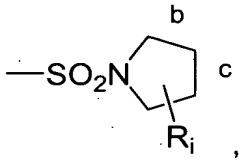
34. The compound of claim 1 wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of

a) >C=O, $>C=CH_2$, $>CH_2$, $>CHC_{1\text{-}4}$alkyl, $>CF_2$, >CHOH, $>CHOC_{1\text{-}4}$alkyl,

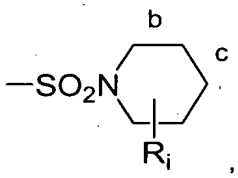
 and ;

b) $>CHNR_dR_g$,

c) $-SO_2NR_dCH(R_h)-$,



where A is fused at the c face, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,

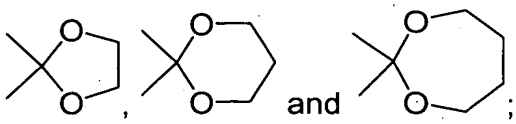


where A is fused at the c face, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,

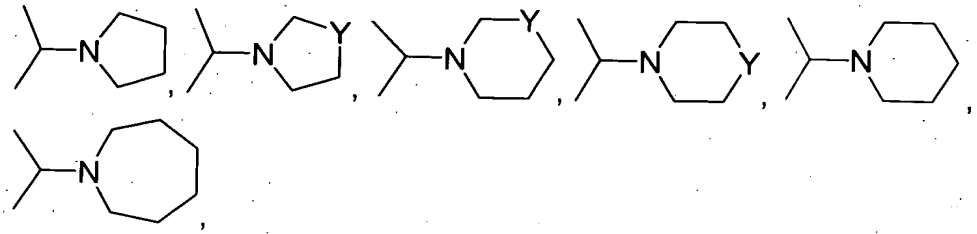
d) $>NCH_3$, $>NCH_2CH_3$, $>NCH_2CH_2CH_3$, $>NCH(CH_3)_2$, $>NCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, and $>NCH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$, where the alkyl attached to >N is optionally substituted.

35. The compound of claim 1 wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of

a) >C=O, $>C=CHR_f$, $>CHR_d$, $>CF_2$, $>CHOR_e$,

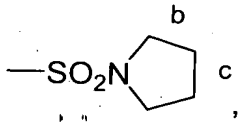


b) >CHNHR$_g$, >CHNCH$_3$R$_g$,

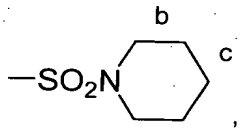


where Y is selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC$_{1-4}$alkyl

c) -SO$_2$NHCH$_2$-, -SO$_2$NCH$_3$CH$_2$-,



where A is fused at the c face, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,



where A is fused at the c face, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,

d) >NCH$_3$, >NCH$_2$CH$_3$, >NCH$_2$CH$_2$CH$_3$, >NCH(CH$_3$)$_2$, where the alkyl attached to >N is optionally substituted.

36. The compound of claim 1 wherein A, optionally substituted with R$_p$, is selected from the group consisting of:

a) phenyl,

b) tetralin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, chroman-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, benzo-1,2-pyran-5, 6, 7 8-yl, benzo-2,3-pyron-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, coumarin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, isocoumarin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, benzo-1,3,2-benzoxazin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, benzo-1,4-dioxan-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxalin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, thiochroman-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzo[1,4]dithiin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, indene-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, 1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydronapth-5, 6, 7, or 8 yl, 1,2-dihydroisoindolo-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, 2, 3-dihydroindene-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, benzo-1,3-dioxol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydroindol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl,

2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzothiophen-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzoimidazol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl,

c) pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl,

d) benzoxazol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, benzothiophen-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, benzofuran-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, indol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, benzthiazol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, benzimidazo-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, indazol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-4, 5 or 6-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[3,2-c]pyridin-4, 6 or 7-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-4, 5 or 7-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-5, 6 or 7-yl, purin-2-yl,

e) isoquinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, quinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, quinoxalin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, quinazolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, naphthyridinyl,

f) furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiophenyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, and

g) benzoxazol-2-yl, benzothiophen-2 or 3-yl, benzofuran-2 or 3-yl, indol-2 or 3-yl, benzthiazol-2-yl, benzimidazo-2-yl, indazol-3-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-2 or 3-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[3,2-c]pyridin-2 or 3-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[2,3-c]pyridin-2 or 3-yl, 1H-pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-2 or 3-yl, purin-8-yl.

37. The compound of claim 1 wherein A, optionally substituted with R_p, is selected from the group consisting of:

a) phenyl,

b) coumarin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, benzo-1,4-dioxan-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, indene-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronapth-5, 6, 7, or 8 yl, 1,2-dihydroisoindolo-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydroindene-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, benzo-1,3-dioxol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydroindol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzothiophen-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl,

c) pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl,

d) benzothiophen-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, benzofuran-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, indol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl,

e) isoquinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, quinolin-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl,

f) furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiophenyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, and

g) benzoxazol-2-yl, benzothiophen-2 or 3-yl, benzofuran-2 or 3-yl, indol-2 or 3-yl.

38. The compound of claim 1 wherein A, optionally substituted with R_p, is selected from the group consisting of: phenyl, benzo-1,4-dioxan-5, 6, 7 or 8-yl, indene-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, 1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydronapth-5, 6, 7, or 8 yl, 2, 3-dihydroindene-4, 5, 6, or 7-yl, benzo-1,3-dioxol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydroindol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydrobenzothiophen-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, pyridinyl, benzothiophen-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, benzofuran-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, indol-4, 5, 6 or 7-yl, furanyl, thiophenyl, pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, and benzothiophen-2 or 3-yl, benzofuran-2 or 3-yl and indol-2 or 3-yl.

39. The compound of claim 1 wherein A, including the R_p substituent, is selected from the group consisting of pyridyl, phenyl, naphthyl, quinolinyl, cyclohexyl, 4-chloro phenyl, 4-methyl-3-chloro phenyl, 4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl phenyl, 3,4-dichloro phenyl, 3-chloro-4-fluoro phenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl, 4-chloro-3-fluoro phenyl, 3,4-dimethyl phenyl, 2-napthyl, 4-trifluoromethyl phenyl, 4-bromo phenyl, 4-fluoro-3-methyl phenyl, 3-chloro phenyl, tetrahydronapthyl, 5-chloro-2-methyl phenyl, 3-trifluoromethyl phenyl, 4-methoxy phenyl; 4-methyl phenyl, 3,4-dimethyl phenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl phenyl, 2-chloro-4-methyl phenyl, 4-ethyl phenyl, 4-fluoro phenyl, 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl, 3,4-dimethoxy-5-bromo phenyl, 3-(dimethylamino) phenyl, 4-nitro phenyl, 4-cyano phenyl, 2-methoxy-4-methyl phenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxy phenyl, 2-chloro phenyl, 4-morpholino phenyl, 3-chloro phenyl, 2,3-dichloro phenyl, benzo[1,3]dioxolyl, benzo[1,4]dioxinyl, 4-amino phenyl, 4-hydroxy phenyl, 4-bromo-3-hydroxy phenyl, 4-chloro-2-hydroxy phenyl, 4-chloro-3-hydroxy phenyl, 2,4-dichloro phenyl, 4-bromo-3-methoxy phenyl and 4-iodo phenyl.

40. The compound of claim 1 wherein A, including the R_p substituent, is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 4-chloro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-bromo-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3,4-dimethylphenyl, 4-ethylphenyl,

benzo[1,3]dioxolyl, 2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 4-pyridyl, cyclohexyl, 4-tetrahydropyranyl, 2-thiophenyl, 6-chloro-benzo[1,3]dioxolyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 3-methylphenyl, and 2-furanyl.

41. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_p is selected from the group consisting of –OH, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-OCH_3$, $-OCH_2CH_3$, $-OCH(CH_3)_2$, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, -Ocyclopentyl, -Ocyclohexyl, -CN, $-NO_2$, $-C(O)NH_2$, $-C(O)N(CH_3)_2$, $-C(O)NH(CH_3)$, $-NHCOCH_3$, $-NCH_3COCH_3$, $-NHSO_2CH_3$, $-NCH_3SO_2CH_3$, $-C(O)CH_3$, $-SOCH_3$, $-SO_2CH_3$, $-SO_2NH_2$, $-SO_2NHCH_3$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)_2$, $-SCF_3$, -F, -Cl, -Br, I, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, -COOH, $-COOCH_3$, $-COOCH_2CH_3$, $-NH_2$, $-NHCH_3$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, $-NCH_3(CH(CH_3)_2)$, imidazolidin-1-yl, 2-imidazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, 2- or 3-pyrrolin-1-yl, 2-pyrazolinyl, morpholin-4-yl, thiomorpholin-4-yl, piperazin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, homopiperidin-1-yl.

42. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_p is selected from the group consisting of –H, –OH, $-OCH_3$, $-OCF_3$, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-CF_3$, –F, –Cl, –Br, –I, $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, morpholin-4-yl, $-NO_2$, –CN, $-C(O)NH_2$, –COOH, $-NHSO_2CH_3$, $-SO_2NH_2$.

43. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

2-[4-(2-Phenyl-[1,3]dioxolan-2-yl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-[1,3]dioxolan-2-yl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(4-Benzoyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Chloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Methyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Methoxy-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Naphthalene-2-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(3-Bromo-4,5-dimethoxy-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Ethyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Benzo[1,3]dioxole-5-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxine-6-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Quinoline-3-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Pyridine-4-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(4-Cyclohexanecarbonyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Chloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-sulfonic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-phenyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-p-tolyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[Hydroxy-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-naphthalen-2-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(3-Bromo-4,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(4-Ethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-hydroxy-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-quinolin-3-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-pyridin-4-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Cyclohexyl-hydroxy-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Methoxy-phenyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(4-Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Ethyl-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(4-Cyclohexylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-vinyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-piperazin-1-yl-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(4-{(4-Chloro-phenyl)-[methyl-(2-methylamino-ethyl)-amino]-methyl}-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Methyl-phenyl-amino)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-(4-Benzylsulfamoyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Methyl-benzylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Methoxy-benzylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(4-Chloro-benzylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Benzyl-methyl-sulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Tetrahydro-pyran-4-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Thiophene-2-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(6-Chloro-benzo[1,3]dioxole-5-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2-Chloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2,4-Dichloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2-Methoxy-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2-Methyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[Hydroxy-(tetrahydro-pyran-4-yl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-thiophen-2-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(6-Chloro-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(2-Chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-{4-[Hydroxy-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(Hydroxy-o-tolyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(6-Chloro-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2-Methoxy-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2-Methyl-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(2-Methyl-benzylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(3-Methyl-benzylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;

2-[4-(1,3-Dihydro-isoindole-2-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;
2-[4-(2,3-Dihydro-indole-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;
(±)-2-[4-(1-Phenyl-ethylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;
(±)-2-[4-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-ylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;
2-{4-[(Thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-sulfamoyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;
2-{4-[(Furan-2-ylmethyl)-sulfamoyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide;
2-{4-[(Pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-sulfamoyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; and
2-[4-(*S*)-Indan-1-ylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide.

44. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of: 2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-vinyl]-phenyl}-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3,4-Dihydro-1*H*-isoquinoline-2-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-(4-Thiophen-2-ylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Furan-3-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Furan-3-yl-hydroxy-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-(4-Furan-3-ylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(1-Methyl-1*H*-imidazole-2-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[Hydroxy-(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(1-Methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(5-Chloro-thiophene-2-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(5-Chloro-thiophen-2-yl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(5-Chloro-thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-

benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Piperidine-4-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-piperidin-4-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-(4-Piperidin-4-ylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Tetrahydro-thiopyran-4-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[Hydroxy-(tetrahydro-thiopyran-4-yl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Tetrahydro-thiopyran-4-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Tetrahydro-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; [[4-(5-Carbamoyl-1*H*-benzoimidazol-2-yl)-phenyl]-(4-chloro-phenyl)-methoxy]-acetic acid; 2-{4-[(2-Amino-ethoxy)-(4-chloro-phenyl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-difluoro-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-difluoro-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-1-methyl-ethyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-cyano-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-((*S*)-1-Hydroxymethyl-1,3-dihydro-isoindole-2-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(*R*)-1-Hydroxymethyl-1,3-dihydro-isoindole-2-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-((1*R*,2*S*)-2-Hydroxy-indan-1-ylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-((*S*)-2-Hydroxy-1-phenyl-ethylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-((*R*)-2-Hydroxy-1-phenyl-ethylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; and 2-{4-[(Pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-sulfamoyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide.

45. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of: 2-[4-(4-Methyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Naphthalene-2-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3-Bromo-4,5-dimethoxy-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzoyl)-

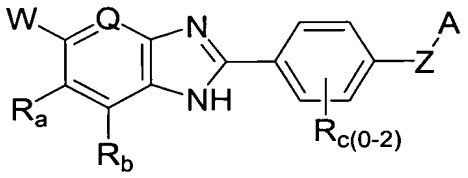
phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(4-Ethyl-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-(4-Cyclohexanecarbonyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-phenyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-p-tolyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[Hydroxy-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-naphthalen-2-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Ethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-hydroxy-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-quinolin-3-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-(4-Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(4-Ethyl-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-vinyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(1,3-Dihydro-isoindole-2-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(2,3-Dihydro-indole-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; (±)-2-[4-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-ylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(Thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-sulfamoyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; and 2-[4-(Indan(S)-1-ylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide.

46. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of: 2-[4-(Naphthalene-2-carbonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3,4-Dichloro-benzoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-naphthalen-2-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-quinolin-3-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-(4-Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-phenyl)-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(3,4-Dimethyl-benzyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-vinyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-ethyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(1,3-Dihydro-isoindole-2-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; and 2-[4-(*S*)-Indan-1-ylsulfamoyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide.

47. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of: 2-[4-(Hydroxy-phenyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-p-tolyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[Hydroxy-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-naphthalen-2-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3-Bromo-4,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(3,4-Dimethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(4-Ethyl-phenyl)-hydroxy-

methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-hydroxy-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-quinolin-3-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-pyridin-4-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Cyclohexyl-hydroxy-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[Hydroxy-(tetrahydro-pyran-4-yl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-thiophen-2-yl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(6-Chloro-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(2-Chloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-{4-[Hydroxy-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-methyl]-phenyl}-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; 2-[4-(Hydroxy-o-tolyl-methyl)-phenyl]-1*H*-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide; and 2-{4-[(2,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-hydroxy-methyl]-phenyl}-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid amide.

48. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a Cds-1 inhibiting amount of a compound of the formula:



wherein

W is -COOH, -$(CO)NH_2$, or -$(SO_2)NH_2$;

Q is N or CH;

R_a and R_b are independently selected from -H and halogen;

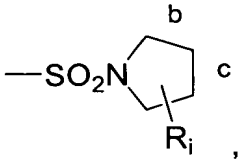
R_c is absent or is independently selected from the group consisting of –OH, -CF_3, -C_{1-4}alkyl, -OC_{1-4}alkyl, -NO_2 and halo;

Z is selected from the group consisting of

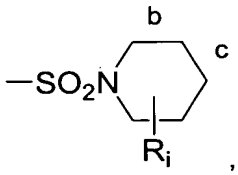
a) >C=O, >C=CHR_f, >C$R_d$$R_d$, >C$F_2$, >C$R_dOR_e$, >C(O$R_d$)O$R_e$,

b) >C(R_d)N$R_d$$R_g$,

c) -SO_2NR_dC(R_h)$_2$-,



where A is fused at the b or c faces, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,



where A is fused at the b or c faces, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,

d) >NC_{1-4}alkyl, where the alkyl is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -N(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, -$CONH_2$, -CONHC_{1-4}alkyl, -CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, -COOH, -COOC_{1-4}alkyl, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

R_d is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and -C_{1-4}alkyl;

R_e is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and optionally mono- or di-substituted -C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -N(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, -$CONH_2$, -CONHC_{1-4}alkyl, -CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, -COOH, -COOC_{1-4}alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

alternatively, R_d and R_e may be taken together with their atoms of attachment to form a 5 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring, with the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members separated from an atom of attachment by at least one carbon member and selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl and having a maximum of two heteroatom ring members;

R_f is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -$CONH_2$, -CONHC_{1-4}alkyl, -CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$, -COOH, -COOC_{1-4}alkyl and optionally

mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of $-NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, $-COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl;

R_g is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and optionally mono- or di-substituted $-C_{1-4}$alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of $-NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, $-COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl;

alternatively, R_d and R_g may be taken together with their nitrogen of common attachment to form a 5 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring, with the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl and having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members separated from the atom of common attachment by at least one carbon member and selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or $>NC_{1-4}$alkyl;

R_h is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of $-NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -CN, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl; or, alternatively, R_h is $-CH_2CH_2-$ or $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, optionally substituted with R_i, which is bonded to a carbon of A adjacent to the carbon of Z attachment, forming a five- or six-membered carbocyclic ring;

R_i is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -OH, $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of $-NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, $-COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of:

a) phenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

R_p is selected from the group consisting of -OH, $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, $-OC_{1-6}$alkyl, $-C_{3-6}$cycloalkyl, $-OC_{3-6}$cycloalkyl, -CN, $-NO_2$, $-N(R_y)R_z$ (wherein R_y and R_z are independently selected from -H or $-C_{1-6}$alkyl, or may be taken together with the nitrogen of

attachment to form an otherwise aliphatic hydrocarbon ring, said ring having 5 to 7 members, optionally having one carbon replaced with >O, =N-, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) and optionally having one or two unsaturated bonds in the ring), -(C=O)N(R_y)R_z, -(N-R_t)COR_t (wherein R_t is independently -H or -C_{1-6}alkyl), -(N-R_t)SO_2C_{1-6}alkyl, -(C=O)C_{1-6}alkyl, -(S=$(O)_n$)-C_{1-6}alkyl (wherein n is selected from 0, 1 or 2), -SO_2N(R_y)R_z, -SCF_3, halo, -CF_3, -OCF_3, -COOH, -C_{1-6}alkylCOOH, -$COOC_{1-6}$alkyl and -C_{1-6}alkyl$COOC_{1-6}$alkyl;

b) phenyl, attached at two adjacent ring members to a C_{3-5}alkyl moiety to form a fused 5 to 7 membered ring, said fused ring optionally having a second unsaturated bond, said fused ring optionally having one or two members replaced with =N-, >O, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) except that no such replacement is permitted where the fused ring is 5 membered and has a second unsaturated bond, and said fused ring optionally having one carbon member replaced with >C=O, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

c) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and optionally mono- or di-substituted with R_p;

d) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a three membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused five membered aromatic ring, which moiety has one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) and which moiety has up to one additional carbon atom optionally replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

e) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and having

attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a four membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused six membered aromatic ring, which moiety has zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

f) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having five ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl), having up to one additional carbon atom optionally replaced by N, and optionally mono- or di-substituted with R_p;

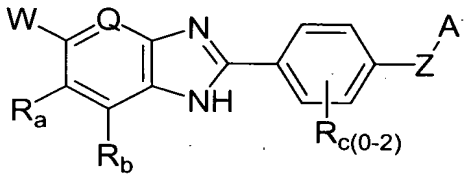
g) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having five ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl), and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a four membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused six membered aromatic ring, which moiety has zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

h) a 4-7 membered aliphatic or heterocyclic ring said heterocyclic ring having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having 0 or 1 heteroatom members selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NR_p, having 0, 1 or 2 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl and having 0, 1 or 2 substituents R_p,

i) a benzo fused 4-7 membered aliphatic or heterocyclic ring said heterocyclic ring having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NR_p, having 0 or 1 additional unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, having 0, 1, 2, or 3 halo substituents on the benzene ring only and having 0, 1 or 2 substituents R_p,

and enantiomers, diastereomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters or amides thereof.

49. A method for treating a subject suffering from cancer, said method comprising (a) administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the formula given below, and (b) damaging the DNA of said subject by administering a DNA damaging treatment or agent:



wherein

W is -COOH, $-(CO)NH_2$, or $-(SO_2)NH_2$;

Q is N or CH;

R_a and R_b are independently selected from -H and halogen;

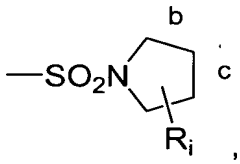
R_c is absent or is independently selected from the group consisting of –OH, $-CF_3$, $-C_{1-4}$alkyl, $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-NO_2$ and halo;

Z is selected from the group consisting of

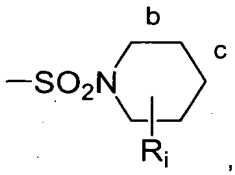
a) >C=O, $>C=CHR_f$, $>CR_dR_d$, $>CF_2$, $>CR_dOR_e$, $>C(OR_d)OR_e$,

b) $>C(R_d)NR_dR_g$,

c) $-SO_2NR_dC(R_h)_2-$,



where A is fused at the b or c faces, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,



where A is fused at the b or c faces, at a face of A which contains two carbon atoms, which is saturated or unsaturated,

d) $>NC_{1-4}$alkyl, where the alkyl is optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of $–NH_2$, $-NHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, $-CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, $-CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, $-COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -OH and $-OC_{1-4}$alkyl;

R_d is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and -C_{1-4}alkyl;

R_e is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and optionally mono- or di-substituted -C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

alternatively, R_d and R_e may be taken together with their atoms of attachment to form a 5 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring, with the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members separated from an atom of attachment by at least one carbon member and selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl and having a maximum of two heteroatom ring members;

R_f is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

R_g is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and optionally mono- or di-substituted -C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -$CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

alternatively, R_d and R_g may be taken together with their nitrogen of common attachment to form a 5 to 8 membered heterocyclic ring, with the heterocyclic ring having 0 or 1 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl and having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members separated from the atom of common attachment by at least one carbon member and selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NC_{1-4}alkyl;

R_h is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of –NH_2, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$,

-CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl; or, alternatively, R_h is $–CH_2CH_2–$ or $-CH_2CH_2CH_2–$, optionally substituted with R_i, which is bonded to a carbon of A adjacent to the carbon of Z attachment, forming a five- or six-membered carbocyclic ring;

R_i is independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -OH, -OC_{1-4}alkyl and optionally mono- or di-substituted C_{1-4}alkyl, where the substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of $–NH_2$, -NHC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, $-CONH_2$, -$CONHC_{1-4}$alkyl, -$CON(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -COOH, -$COOC_{1-4}$alkyl, -CN, -OH and -OC_{1-4}alkyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of:

a) phenyl, optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

R_p is selected from the group consisting of –OH, -C_{1-6}alkyl, -OC_{1-6}alkyl, -C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, -OC_{3-6}cycloalkyl, -CN, $-NO_2$, -$N(R_y)R_z$ (wherein R_y and R_z are independently selected from -H or -C_{1-6}alkyl, or may be taken together with the nitrogen of attachment to form an otherwise aliphatic hydrocarbon ring, said ring having 5 to 7 members, optionally having one carbon replaced with >O, =N-, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) and optionally having one or two unsaturated bonds in the ring), -$(C=O)N(R_y)R_z$, -$(N\text{-}R_t)COR_t$ (wherein R_t is independently -H or -C_{1-6}alkyl), -$(N\text{-}R_t)SO_2C_{1-6}$alkyl, -$(C=O)C_{1-6}$alkyl, -$(S=(O)_n)$-$C_{1-6}$alkyl (wherein n is selected from 0, 1 or 2), -$SO_2N(R_y)R_z$, $-SCF_3$, halo, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, -COOH, -C_{1-6}alkylCOOH, -$COOC_{1-6}$alkyl and -C_{1-6}alkyl$COOC_{1-6}$alkyl;

b) phenyl, attached at two adjacent ring members to a C_{3-5}alkyl moiety to form a fused 5 to 7 membered ring, said fused ring optionally having a second unsaturated bond, said fused ring optionally having one or two members replaced with =N-, >O, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) except that no such replacement is permitted where the fused ring is 5 membered and has a second unsaturated bond, and said fused ring optionally having one carbon member replaced with >C=O, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

c) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and optionally mono- or di-substituted with R_p;

d) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a three membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused five membered aromatic ring, which moiety has one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl) and which moiety has up to one additional carbon atom optionally replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

e) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having six ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a four membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused six membered aromatic ring, which moiety has zero, one or two carbon atoms replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

f) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having five ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl), having up to one additional carbon atom optionally replaced by N, and optionally mono- or di-substituted with R_p;

g) a monocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group having five ring carbon atoms, having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having one carbon atom replaced by >O, >S, >NH or >N(C_{1-4}alkyl), and having attachment at two adjacent carbon ring members to a four membered hydrocarbon moiety to form a fused six membered aromatic ring, which moiety has zero, one or two carbon atoms

replaced by N, the fused rings optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted with R_p;

h) a 4-7 membered aliphatic or heterocyclic ring said heterocyclic ring having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having 0 or 1 heteroatom members selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NR_p, having 0, 1 or 2 unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl and having 0, 1 or 2 substituents R_p,

i) a benzo fused 4-7 membered aliphatic or heterocyclic ring said heterocyclic ring having a carbon atom which is the point of attachment, having 0 or 1 additional heteroatom members selected from O, S, -N=, >NH or >NR_p, having 0 or 1 additional unsaturated bonds, having 0, 1 or 2 carbon members which is a carbonyl, having 0, 1, 2, or 3 halo substituents on the benzene ring only and having 0, 1 or 2 substituents R_p,

and enantiomers, diastereomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters or amides thereof.

50. A compound of claim 1 isotopically-labelled to be detectable by PET or SPECT.

51. A method for studying cancer comprising the step of using an ^{18}F-labeled or ^{11}C-labelled compound of claim 1 as a positron emission tomography (PET) molecular probe.